

Patent  
Attorney Docket No. 76272

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An isolated biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide molecule having at least 90% sequence homology with a sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 wherein the isolated biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide specifically physically interacts with HIF-1a.

Claim 3 (Previously amended): An isolated mammalian IPAS polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:3.

Claims 4-21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The isolated mammalian IPAS polypeptide according to claim 2, wherein the polynucleotide molecule ~~having~~ has at least 95% sequence homology with a sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): An isolated biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide having at least 90% sequence homology with SEQ ID NO:3 wherein the isolated biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide specifically physically interacts with HIF-1a.

Claim 24 (Previously added): The isolated mammalian IPAS polypeptide according to claim 23, wherein the sequence homology is at least 95%.